LEVELL

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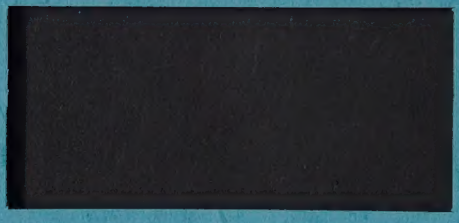
INSTRUCTION BOOK



OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

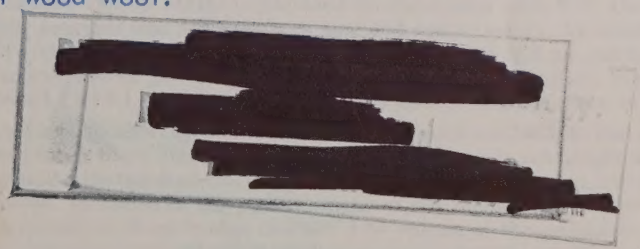
for

R.C. OSCILLATORS

TYPE TG200 SERIES

GUARANTEE

We undertake to repair, or replace free of charge, any components that fail within 12 months of the date of purchase of an instrument provided that the instrument is not, in our opinion, modified or misused. Instruments returned by post should be well packed to avoid damage. We recommend the use of two strong cartons, one to fit closely around the instrument and the other large enough to float the small carton in at least 2" thickness of wood wool.



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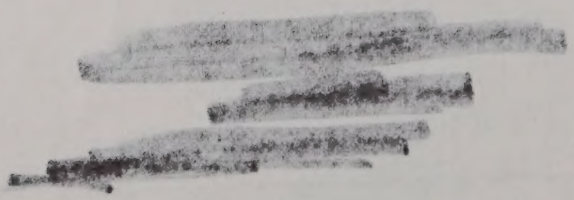
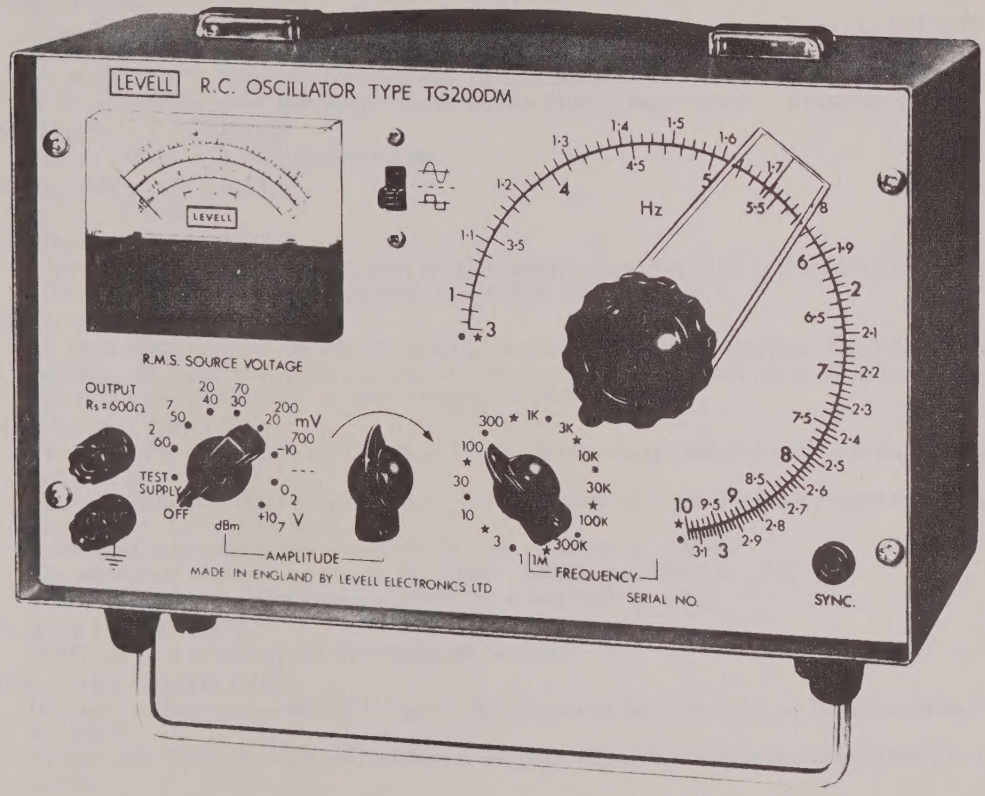


LEVELL R.C. OSCILLATORS

TYPE TG200 SERIES



- **1Hz to 1MHz**
- **SINE OR SQUARE**
- **7Vr.m.s. OUTPUT**
- **LOW DISTORTION**
- **SYNC. FACILITY**
- **STABLE AMPLITUDE**

A frequency coverage of 1Hz to 1MHz is provided on these solid state R.C. Oscillators which are available in versions that generate sine waves only or sine and square waves. An output up to 7V r.m.s. is generated by all versions but choice is available as to whether or not an output meter is fitted. Internal long life batteries provide power for these instruments but operation from an A.C. mains supply is possible when a LEVELL stabilised Power Supply Unit is fitted in place of the batteries.

The oscillator circuit arrangement uses a new conception (Patent no.1248356) that allows the variable frequency control to be a single track linear potentiometer. This gives a much longer working life for the component when compared with the dual track logarithmic potentiometers that are often used in Wien bridge circuits. In addition, variation of the potentiometer is not accompanied by the severe amplitude bounce which is characteristic of Wien bridge circuits. The output of the oscillator is stabilised by a thermistor and considerable negative feedback is applied to ensure that the waveform has a low harmonic content.

The square wave output of the dual waveform versions is produced by a trigger circuit to ensure that the rise time is irrespective of the frequency.

The output from the oscillator circuit, or the trigger circuit, is fed to the output terminals via a low distortion power amplifier. This acts as a buffer to prevent modulation of the oscillator by signals picked up on the output leads. A sync. socket is provided to give a constant sinusoidal signal for locking other equipment such as an oscilloscope time base. The oscillator can also be locked to an external signal which is fed into the sync. socket.

SPECIFICATION OF TYPE TG200 SERIES

VARIATIONS

Type TG200: Sine wave output only. No output meter.
Type TG200D: Sine and square wave outputs. No output meter.
Type TG200M: Sine wave output only. Output meter fitted.
Type TG200DM: Sine and square wave outputs. Output meter fitted.

Type TG200DMP: As type TG200DM plus 0 to +1% calibrated frequency control.

FREQUENCY COVERAGE

1Hz to 1MHz in 12 overlapping ranges.

FREQUENCY ACCURACY

±2% ±0.03Hz.

FREQUENCY STABILITY

Change of frequency for ±10% shift on 33V supply is less than ±0.1% from 30Hz to 30kHz.
Change of frequency with temperature is less than ±0.025% per °C.

OUTPUT AMPLITUDE

7V r.m.s. (20V p–p on sine) source voltage that can be reduced to less than 200μV by means of a continuously variable control and a switched attenuator that covers up to 70dB in 10dB steps.
Power output −74dBm to +13dBm (20mW) into 600Ω load.

OUTPUT ACCURACY

Versions with a meter are calibrated in r.m.s. source voltage from 0 to 7V with an accuracy of ±2% f.s.d.
Versions without a meter have the output control calibrated in r.m.s. voltage from 0 to 7V with an accuracy of ±5% ±5% f.s.d.
Additional calibrated scales cover 0 to 2V and −14dBm to +3dBm.
The additional attenuator error on 2V, 700mV, 200mV and 70mV is ±2%.
The additional attenuator error on 20mV, 7mV and 2mV is ±4%.

OUTPUT IMPEDANCE

600Ω ±1% at all settings of the amplitude controls.

SINE WAVE DISTORTION

Harmonic content is less than 0.1% up to 5V output and less than 0.2% at 7V output from 10Hz to 100kHz.
At 1Hz and 1MHz the harmonic content is less than 1% up to 5V output and less than 2% at 7V output.

SINE WAVE AMPLITUDE STABILITY

Amplitude variation with frequency is less than ±1% up to 300kHz and less than ±3% at 1MHz.
Amplitude variation is less than ±0.2% per °C and is less than ±0.2% for ±10% change on 33V supply.

SQUARE WAVE CHARACTERISTICS

Rise time is less than 150nS at all frequencies. There is no discernible droop at low frequencies.
Variation of peak to peak amplitude with frequency is less than ±1% up to 300kHz and ±3% at 1MHz. The r.m.s. amplitude falls by about 10% at 1MHz due to the rise time.
Amplitude variation is less than ±0.2% per °C and is less than ±2% for ±10% change on 33V supply.

SYNC. OUTPUT

Sine wave in phase with the output, amplitude greater than 1V r.m.s., source resistance 3.3kΩ.

SYNC. INPUT

The frequency can be locked to an external signal over a range of ±1% per volt r.m.s. input up to 10V maximum. The frequency control then varies the phase of the output.

TEMPERATURE

The above characteristics are at 25°C but only minor divergencies exist from −10°C to +45°C.

POWER SUPPLY

Four Ever Ready type PP9 batteries provide 33V ±10% centre earthed supply. Current consumption is typically 11mA on sine waves and 15mA on square waves giving an average battery life of 400 hours on sine waves and 300 hours on square waves. Operation from an A.C. mains supply is possible when a LEVELL Power Unit is fitted in place of the batteries. The output from a Power Unit is stabilised against mains supply variations.

SIZE AND WEIGHT

7″ × 10¼″ × 5½″ (18cm × 26cm × 14cm) 10 lb. (4.5 kg).

CARRYING CASES

Cases are available as optional extras. They are stiffened with board and felt lined. Shoulder straps are detachable and it is possible to use an instrument whilst in a case.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS FOR LEVELL TG200 R.C. OSCILLATORS

1. Connection of Power Supply

Remove the back panel from the case and connect four 9V batteries Ever Ready type PP9 or equivalent by means of the snap fastener connections provided.

A LEVELL Power Supply Unit type PU33 may be fitted in place of the batteries when operation is required from an A.C. mains supply. The earth connection on the Power Unit must be joined to the case of the instrument.

Replace the back panel taking care to ensure that the back screws are tight so that there is a good electrical connection between the back panel and the instrument case.

2. To Check Supply

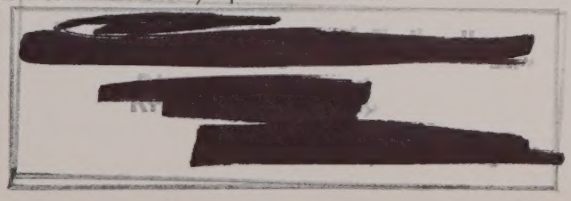
Types TG200M and TG200DM are fitted with a meter that should have the mechanical set zero screw adjusted when the instrument is switched to the OFF position. The attenuator switch should be set to the "Test supply" position and 10 seconds allowed for the pointer to settle to a stable reading. The supply limits are marked on the meter scale.

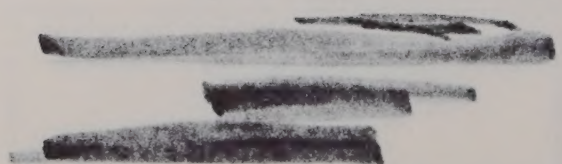
Types TG200 and TG200D are fitted with an indicator lamp that glows in the "Test Supply" condition when the instrument is fitted with batteries that are in good condition.

3. To Use the Oscillator

Turn the two "Amplitude" controls fully clockwise to obtain maximum output from the oscillator. Allow 30 seconds for the oscillator to settle to a steady state after switching on. The frequency may then be varied by adjustment of the range switch and frequency dial.

The output waveform of type TG200D and TG200DM may be selected to be sine or square by means of the slide switch that is pictorially marked. However, the output on the "SYNC" socket remains a constant amplitude sine wave irrespective of the settings of the amplitude controls and the Sine/square switch.





The amplitude control switch is marked in terms of both voltage and dBm. The voltage markings refer to the r.m.s. source voltage that is indicated at the upper ends of the voltage scales on the meters of types TG200M and TG200DM or the calibrated amplitude potentiometers of types TG200 and TG200D. The amplitude control switch introduces attenuation in steps of 10dB up to 70dB in series with the output terminals of the oscillator. The control is marked in terms of dBm with 0dBm meaning a power level of 1mW produced into a load of 600Ω. The control steps of 10dBm from -60dBm to +10dBm are added to the reading on the calibrated scale of -14dBm to +3dBm in order to give the available power level into a termination of 600Ω.

Fine adjustment of the output level is made by the amplitude control potentiometer that varies the signal level over a range of at least 20dB without affecting the output impedance of the oscillator which remains at 600Ω at all output levels and all frequencies. It is not necessary to terminate the oscillator with a matched load of 600Ω as variation of the load impedance has a negligible effect upon the oscillator frequency. Low load impedances may be placed across the output terminals to obtain output currents up to 11mA r.m.s. This feature permits a resistor of say 82Ω to be placed across the output terminals to lower the source impedance to 72Ω for driving a coaxial cable of this characteristic impedance. Matching of the source to the load becomes mainly of importance at the high frequency end of the oscillator range on square wave output when it is desired to maintain a fast rise time and avoid creating H.F. ringing in reactive loads and test leads.

The frequency range switch is marked alternately with a dot and a star which refer to the two scales that exist on the variable frequency control. The numbers on either side of the symbol give the limits in Hz at each end of the selected range.

4. To Use The SYNC. Facility

There are two uses for the socket marked SYNC. The first is to provide a sine wave signal output of constant amplitude of about 1.5V r.m.s. for synchronising other items such as an oscilloscope time base. The second use is to accept a signal input to lock the oscillator to another source.

The sync. output can be used to drive a load impedance of the order of 100kΩ in parallel with 50pF with negligible effect upon the oscillator performance. Placing a short circuit between the sync. socket and earth only affects the oscillator by pulling the frequency about 1% at the very top end of the frequency coverage.

The lock facility permits the oscillator to be synchronised to a low level frequency standard such as a crystal controlled oscillator that can provide an output of about 1V r.m.s. into a load of 3.3kΩ. The main oscillator output then becomes a standard source when the frequency dial is tuned to the frequency of the crystal controlled oscillator. In this respect the oscillator may be considered as then acting as a tuned power amplifier with the advantage that the output level is stabilised against amplitude variations on the output of the crystal controlled oscillator.

5. Adjustment of Preset Controls

A number of preset adjustments are provided to permit optimum setting of the performance of the instrument. These adjustments are set prior to despatch of the instrument from the factory when operating from supplies of ±16.5V ±5% at a temperature of 20°C to 25°C. Readjustment of these controls will not normally be required for many months unless the instrument has had a component failure.

The following items of test equipment are required during the process of adjustment of the preset controls:-

(a) Frequency meter capable of measuring frequencies from 100Hz to 1MHz to an accuracy better than ±0.1%.

(b) D.C. Voltmeter with sensitivity better than ±10mV and input impedance greater than 10kΩ.

(c) A.C. Voltmeter with calibration accuracy better than ±0.5% at 5V 1kHz and input impedance greater than 500kΩ.

The first 10 adjustments are made to controls located on the main printed circuit board which is visible when the back panel is removed. The two square wave adjustments are located on the small printed circuit board that is behind the battery compartment at the centre of the instrument. The positions of the various controls can be seen on the following diagram.

Adjustments must be made in the following order:-

(1) Set to 5V output on sine waves at 1kHz. Place the D.C. Voltmeter across the output connections. Adjust the Z control for $\leq \pm$ 10mV D.C. on the output.

(2) Transfer the D.C. Voltmeter to measure between the SYNC. socket and earth. There should be a potential of about -70mV present on the 1kHz to 3kHz range. Switch to the 3Hz to 10Hz range and adjust the S control at 10Hz until the same D.C. level is obtained.

(3) On the TG200M and TG200DM, adjust the METER control to vary the sensitivity of the meter so that it reads correct at 5V output from the oscillator at 1kHz on sine wave.

(4) On the TG200M and TG200DM, turn the amplitude control to maximum and adjust the SINE control so the output is 7.5V measured on a meter across the output terminals. On the TG200 and TG200D, turn the amplitude control to 5V on the calibrated scale and adjust the SINE control so the output is 5V across the output terminals.

(5) Set the amplitude to 5V approximately and adjust the frequency controls until the frequency on the 100Hz to 300Hz range is set at 100Hz i.e. the period is 10,000µS. Turn only the range switch to the 3kHz to 10kHz range and adjust TC1 + TC2 until the frequency is 3162.3Hz i.e. the period is 316.23µS. Increasing either TC1 or TC2 reduces the frequency.

(6) Set the frequency on the 100Hz to 300Hz range to 300Hz i.e. a period of 3333.3µS. Turn only the range switch to the 3kHz to 10kHz range and measure the frequency. It should be 9486.9Hz $\pm$ 0.1% i.e. the period should be 105.41µS $\pm$ 0.1%.

When the measured value is outside these limits adjust the upper trimmer TC2 to give an error in the opposite direction of twice the magnitude of the observed error and then adjust the lower trimmer TC1 to correct this error i.e. if the period measured was 105.0µS instead of 105.41µS, adjust TC2 until the period is 106.23µS and then adjust TC2 to obtain 105.41µS.

The object of this method of adjustment is to vary the capacity ratio TC1:TC2 but not to vary the product capacity of TC1 X TC2 as this affects the preceding adjustment at the low end of the scale. Repeat (5) and (6) until no further adjustment is required.

(7) Turn to the 3kHz to 10kHz range and adjust the L control at 4kHz setting on the frequency dial.

(8) Rotate the dial to 8kHz and adjust the H control to obtain the correct frequency. Observe the errors present at dial settings of 3, 4, 5, 6..... 10kHz. The errors at all points should be less than $\pm$ 1%. Adjust the L and H controls in order to obtain optimum tracking i.e. to balance the errors so that no cardinal point is worse than $\pm$ 1% in error.

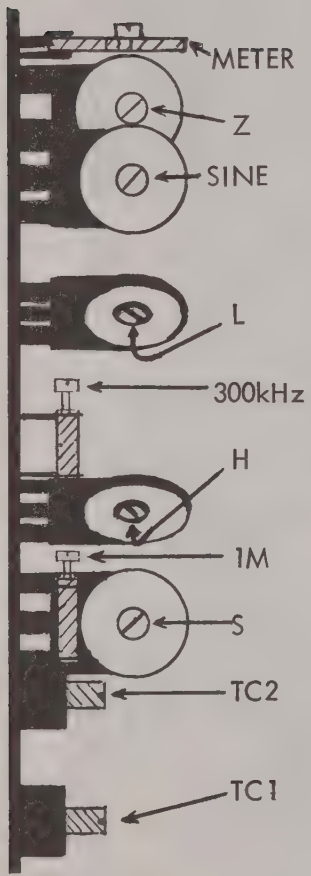
(9) Adjust the 300kHz trimmer so that the error at 300kHz is balanced to minimum at the 300kHz points on the top 2 ranges. Place the back panel in position before taking measurements as the frequency is affected by the presence of this screening plate.

(10) Adjust the 1MHz trimmer so that tracking is optimum from 700kHz to 1MHz with the back panel in position. Repeat (9) and (10) until optimum conditions are obtained for the tracking of the scale on the top two ranges.

(11) On TG200D and TG200DM adjust the square wave D.C. zero control until the D.C.level superimposed on a 5V 1kHz output is less than $\pm$ 10mV.

(12) On TG200D and TG200DM adjust the square wave output control until the r.m.s. output on square waves is same as that on sine waves at 5V 1kHz.

PRESET ADJUSTMENTS OF TG200 SERIES



SETTING ORDER & CONDITIONS

(3) 5V output at 1kHz on sine wave. Absent on TG200 and TG200D.

(1) D.C. zero on sine output at 5V 1kHz.

(4) 7.5V maximum output at 1kHz on TG200M and TG200DM. 5V at 5V on scale of TG200 and TG200D.

(7) At low end of frequency scale in conjunction with H control.

(9) For 300kHz optimum on top two ranges (Interacts with 1M control)

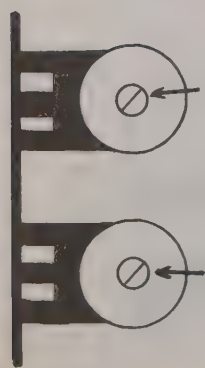
(8) At high end of frequency scale in conjunction with L control for optimum tracking on 3kHz to 10kHz.

(10) For 700kHz to 1MHz optimum tracking. (Interacts with 300kHz control)

(2) For same D.C. level on SYNC at 10Hz as exists at 2kHz.

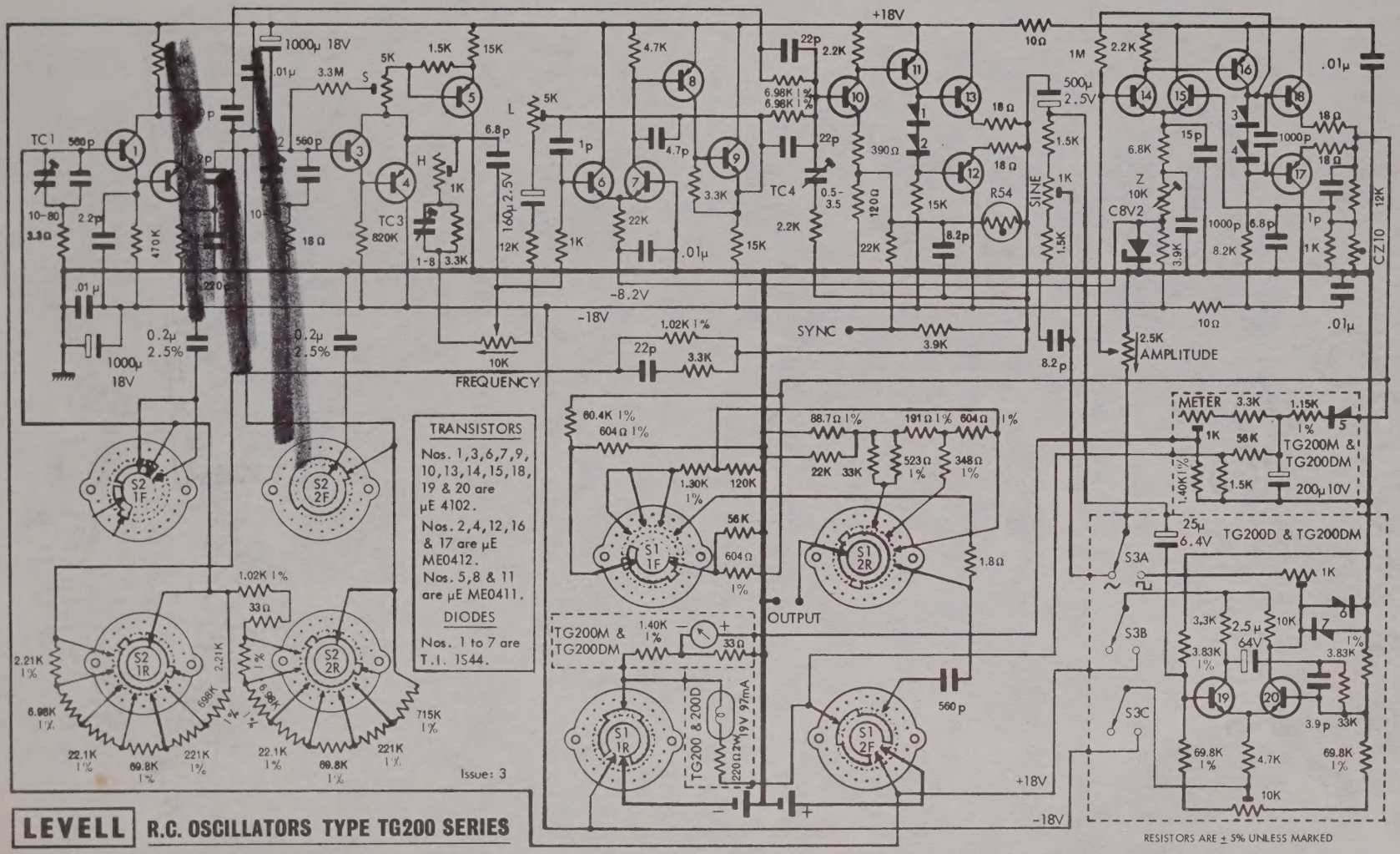
(5) TC1 + TC2 set so frequency is 3162.3Hz on 3-10kHz at same dial setting as that giving 100Hz on 100-300Hz.

(6) TC1 : TC2 set so frequency is 9486.9Hz on 3-10kHz at same dial setting as that giving 300Hz on 100-300Hz.

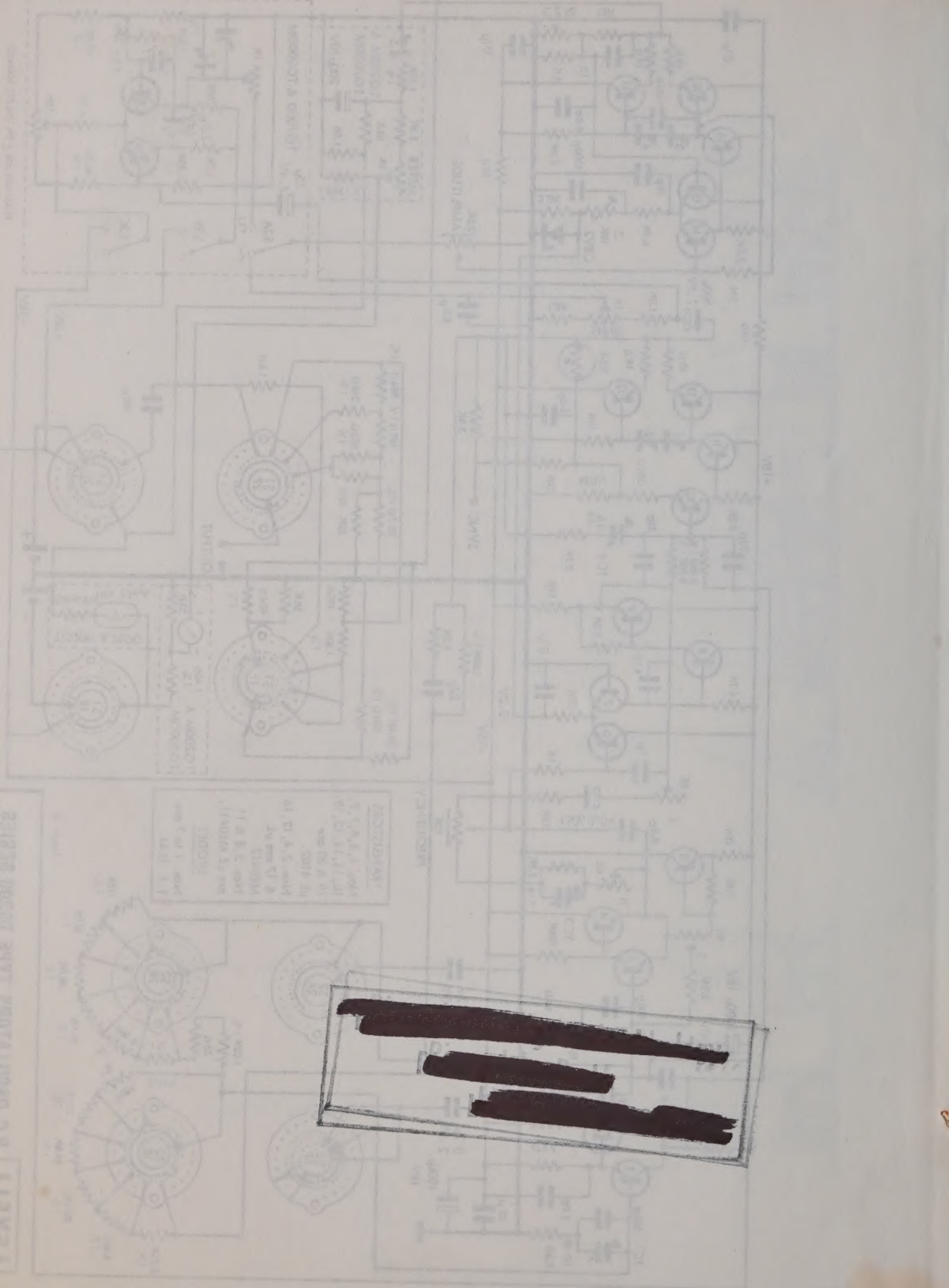


(12) R.M.S. output on square to be same as sine at 5V 1kHz.

(11) D.C. zero on sq. output at 5V 1kHz.



LEVELL R.C. OSCILLATORS TYPE TG200 SERIES



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